

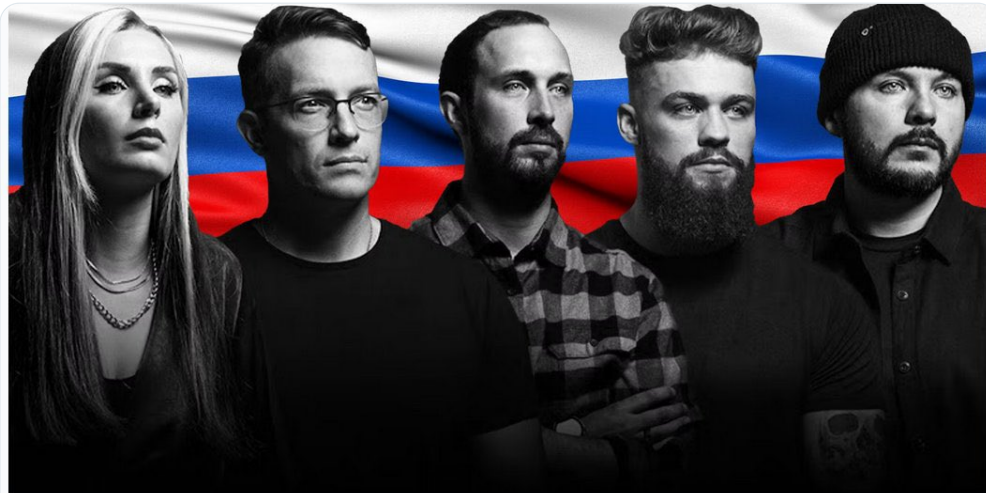


Vatnik Suppen auf Deutsch @vatniksoup_de

Sep 9, 2024 · 21 tweets · [vatniksoup_de/status/1833176468081250360](https://twitter.com/vatniksoup_de/status/1833176468081250360)

Diese #vatniksoup spricht über die Finanzierung des in Tennessee ansässigen Medienunternehmens TENET Media durch den Kreml. TENET Media ist für die Verbreitung russischer Narrative & für die starke Unterstützung von Donald Trump bei den US-Wahlen 2024 bekannt.

1/20



Carsten Reisinger/Shutterstock @watchTENET/YouTube (Licensed)

Media start-up from Benny Johnson, Tim Pool, and Dave Rubin was secret Russian influence campaign, indictment alleges

Famous pro-Trump commentators may have been unwittingly duped.



David Covucci

Tech

Posted on Sep 4, 2024

Updated on Sep 4, 2024, 6:01 pm CDT

Gleich vorab, das Geld stammte vom Kreml-kontrollierten Sender RT und wurde durch Briefkastenfirmen in Ländern wie der Türkei, den Vereinigten Arabischen Emiraten und Mauritius verschleiert, wobei das Geld als Zahlungen für Elektronik beschrieben wurde.

2/20

Between in or about October 2023 and in or about August 2024, RT sent wire transfers to U.S. Company-1 totaling approximately \$9.7 million, which represented nearly 90% of U.S. Company-1's bank deposits from all sources combined. The wires were sent from shell companies in Turkey, the United Arab Emirates, and Mauritius, and were often accompanied by wire notes ascribing the payments to the purchase of electronics. For example, the wire note for a \$318,800 wire payment from a shell entity in Turkey to U.S. Company-1 on March 1, read: "BUYING GOODS-INV.013-IPHONE 15 PRO MAX 512GB."

U.S. Company-1 never disclosed to its viewers that it was funded and directed by RT. Nor did U.S. Company-1 or its two founders register with the Attorney General as an agent of a foreign principal.

Die beiden beteiligten Personen von RT, Kostiantyn Kalaschnikow & Elena Afanasjewa, wurden wegen Verschwörung zur Geldwäsche und Verschwörung zur Verletzung des Foreign Agents Registration Act (FARA) angeklagt. Beide haben die Ersteller der Inhalte bei TENET beeinflusst.

3/20

The screenshot shows the official website of the Office of Public Affairs, U.S. Department of Justice. The page features a dark blue header with the department's logo and navigation links. Below the header is a search bar and a menu with categories like 'About', 'News', 'Documents', etc. The main content area displays a press release titled 'Two RT Employees Indicted for Covertly Funding and Directing U.S. Company that Published Thousands of Videos in Furtherance of Russian Interests'. The release is dated Wednesday, September 4, 2024, and is marked as 'For Immediate Release'. A 'Share' button is visible below the date. The text of the release states that employees of a Russian state-controlled media outlet deployed nearly \$10 million to publish RT-curated content through a Tennessee-based company.

TENET wurde 2022 von Lauren Chen und Liam Donovan, der auch Präsident des Unternehmens ist, gegründet. Chen macht auch bei Charlie Kirks gemeinnütziger Organisation Turning Point USA mit und schrieb zwischen 2021 und 2022 Meinungsbeiträge für RT.

4/20



PROFILE



LAUREN CHEN

Lauren Chen is a conservative millennial YouTuber, blogger, political commentator, and TV host. Born in Quebec, Canada, and raised in Hong Kong, Lauren earned a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science with a Minor in Middle-Eastern Studies and Arabic. She has starred in popular conservative shows including, Pseudo-Intellectual on Blaze TV and Roaming Millennial: Uncensored on CRTV. Lauren currently stars on her own YouTube channel, Lauren Chen, which has garnered over half a million subscribers and amassed almost 80,000,000 views. She has also appeared on Fox News, One America News, Newsmax, The Daily Wire, Rebel Media, and PragerU.

Contributor

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Lauren Chen



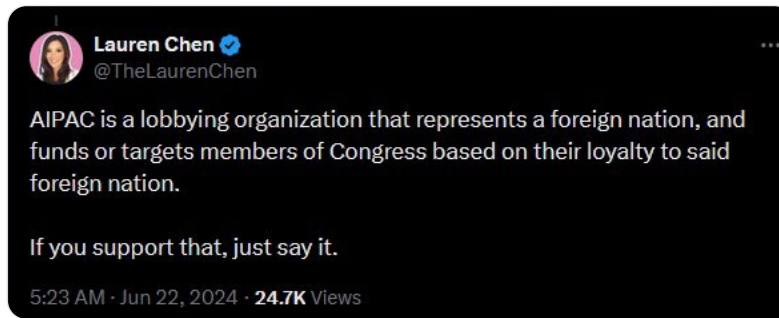
Lauren Chen is a political and social commentator. She began as a YouTuber, and has since gained millions of views on the platform and hundreds of thousands of followers. She has also appeared on Fox News,

BlazeTV, RT, OANN, Newsmax, The Daily Wire, Rebel Media, PragerU and The Rubin Report.

Lauren was born in Canada, raised in Hong Kong, and came to the US for university. She has a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science with a Minor in Middle East Studies and Arabic. The topics she is most passionate about include dating culture, family values, individual liberty, gender equality, and issues surrounding race.

Follow her on Twitter [@thelaurenchen](#) and [Telegram](#)





Wir haben schon mal die neue Taktik russischer Info-Operationen beschrieben. Es sieht so aus, als würde man statt Bot- & Troll-Konten mit begrenzter Anhängerschaft nun Social-Media-Superstreuer -Konten mit großer Reichweite unterstützen.

5/20

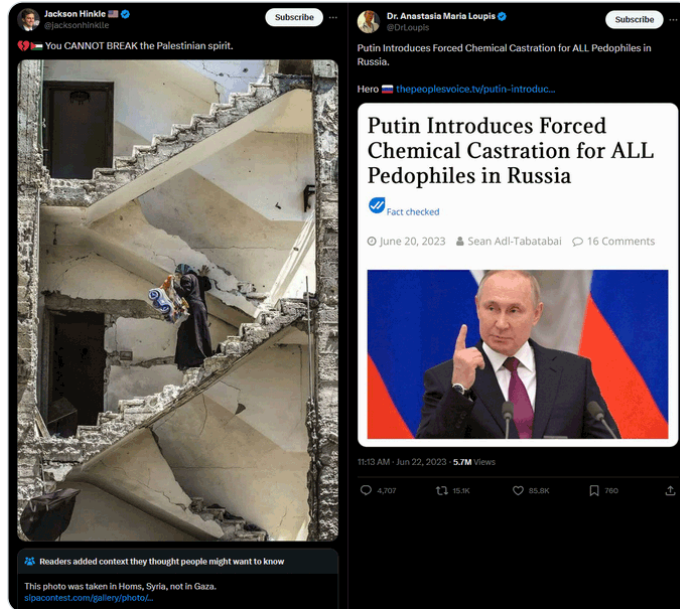


Pekka Kallioniemi ✓
@P_Kallioniemi · Follow



In today's #vatniksoup, I'll discuss social media superspreaders. Due to their effectiveness, superspreader accounts are often used to spread "low credibility" content, disinformation and propaganda, and today this is more often done by hostile state actors such as Russia.

1/14



11:01 AM · May 27, 2024

5.9K Reply Copy link

Read 53 replies

Als Nächstes ein Blick auf die an TENET-Medien beteiligten Personen: Tim Pool, Benny Johnson, Dave Rubin und Lauren Southern sind wohl die größten Namen in dieser Gruppe, die zusammen etwa 7 Mil Follower auf X haben. Sie produzieren auch Inhalte auf YouTube.

6/20



Benny Johnson  

@bennyjohnson

i make internet

 Media Personality  Tampa Florida  bennyjohnson.com/subscribe

 Joined June 2008

3,415 Following 2.7M Followers 14 Subscriptions



Tim Pool  

@Timcast

Host of Timcast IRL And CEO @Timcastnews
Host of The Culture War Podcast on @watchTENETnow

 Media & News Company  Harpers Ferry  Timcast.com

 Born March 9  Joined March 2009

947 Following 2.1M Followers



The image shows the Twitter profile of Dave Rubin. The header features a blue background with the text "RUBIN REPORT" in large white letters. Below this, it says "ONE VIEWS." and "MON-FRI 11AM ET - 8AM PT". There is a circular profile picture of Dave Rubin on the left and a "Follow" button on the right. The name "Dave Rubin" is displayed in bold, followed by the handle "@RubinReport". Below that, it says "Florida Man". At the bottom, there are icons for location, a link to "linktr.ee/rubinreport", and "Joined December 2008". The statistics show "928 Following" and "1.5M Followers".

Dave Rubin
@RubinReport
Florida Man
linktr.ee/rubinreport
Joined December 2008
928 Following 1.5M Followers

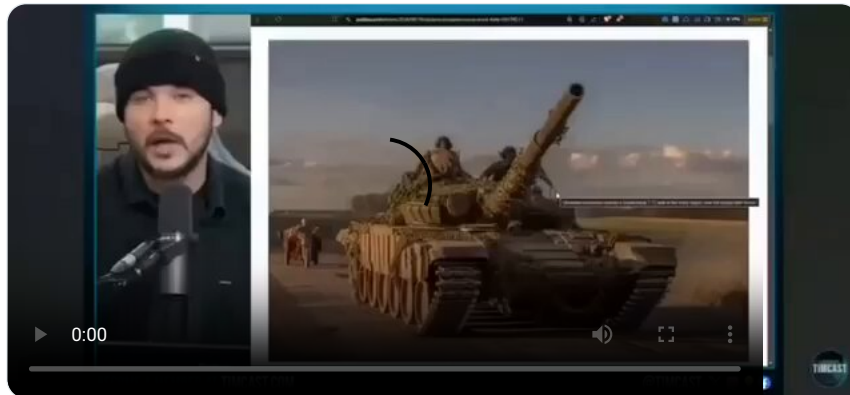


The image shows the Twitter profile of Lauren Southern. The header features a blue background with the text "LS" in large white letters, with "NEWS-COMMENTARY-CULTURE" written below it. There is a circular profile picture of Lauren Southern on the left and a "Follow" button on the right. The name "Lauren Southern" is displayed in bold with a verified account icon, followed by the handle "@Lauren_Southern". Below that, it says "Watch my documentaries at: laurensouthern.net Best Selling Author. Filmmaker." At the bottom, there are icons for a website, an email address "contactlsouthern@gmail.com", a link to "youtube.com/channel/UCl6A...", and "Joined July 2010". The statistics show "1,342 Following" and "562K Followers".

Lauren Southern ✓
@Lauren_Southern
Watch my documentaries at: laurensouthern.net Best Selling Author. Filmmaker.
Media Personality contactlsouthern@gmail.com
youtube.com/channel/UCl6A...
Joined July 2010
1,342 Following 562K Followers

Von den 4 war Pool derjenige, der zum Extrem ging. In einem Video behauptete er, dass „die 🇺🇸 der Feind dieses Landes ist“, dass die 🇺🇸 den Konflikt durch die Sprengung der Nord-Stream-Pipeline ausgelöst habe & schlug vor, dass „wir uns bei Russland entschuldigen sollten“.

7/20





Tim hat sich auch bei X über die Ukraine geäußert, insbesondere über die US-Militärhilfe für das Land. Er hat zusätzlich gemeint, dass Trump den Krieg möglicherweise schnell deeskalieren könnte. Diese Beiträge wurden häufiger, nachdem TENET von Russland finanziert wurde.

8/20

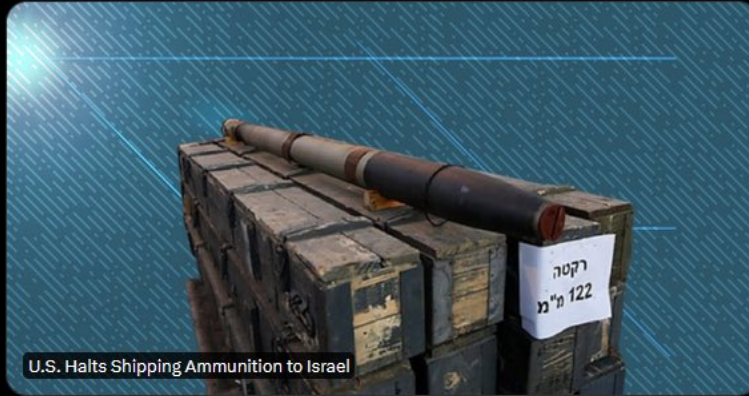




Tim Pool  
@Timcast

Subscribe ...

Trump got impeached for freezing military aid to Ukraine
Biden faces no consequences for freezing military aid to Israel
This proves the Ukrainians run the US
now when someone asks "who is they tho" you respond "the ukrainians"



U.S. Halts Shipping Ammunition to Israel

From scnr.com

4:50 PM · May 6, 2024 · 1.1M Views

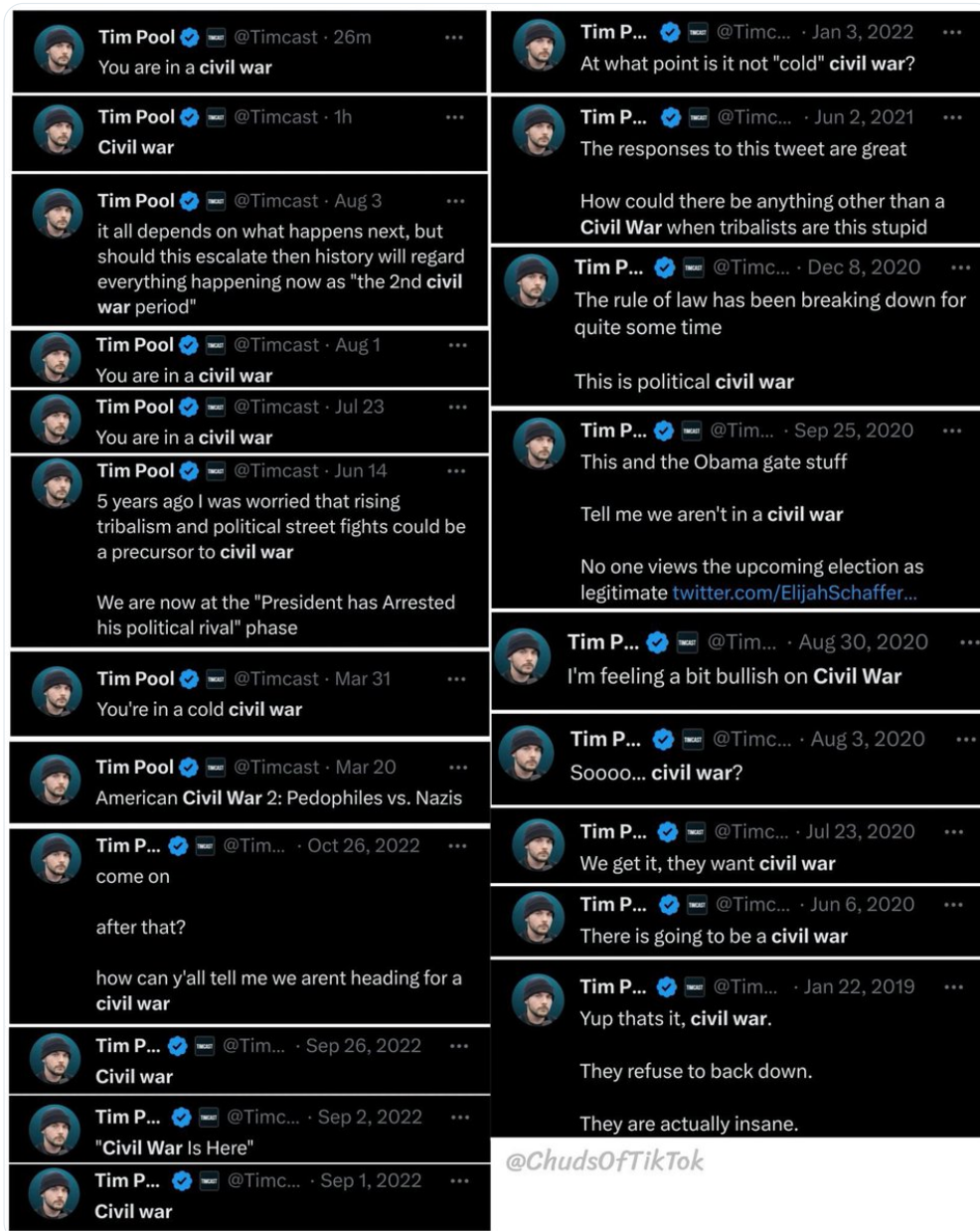


Tim Pool  
@Timcast

Follow ...

The people screaming about Trump working for Russia are the same people demanding social media censor "misinformation"
Stop listening to these people

6:38 PM · 3/22/19



Johnsons Hauptthemen waren die Einstellung der Ukraine-Hilfe & die Betonung innenpolitischer Probleme in den USA (natürlich verursacht durch die bösen Demokraten). Offenbar wurde er mit 400.000 EUR/Monat entlohnt & erhielt einen Bonus von 100.000 EUR bei Vertragsabschluss.

Arieh Kovler @ariehkovler

Eventually they did a deal. Benny Johnson would (unknowingly) work for the Russians for \$400,000 a month in exchange for 4 monthly videos. Plus a 100k signing bonus.

Pool also agreed 100k a video but no bonus. Weak negotiating skills.

er negotiations, in which Founder-2 also participated. Commentator-2's contract, which was between Co and U.S. Company-1, provided for weekly videos to be livestreamed by U.S. Company-1. In exchange for a fee of \$100,000, Commentator-2's production company granted U.S. Company-1 "a non-exclusive license, during the applicable License Term, to display, transmit, and all content created . . . under this Agreement."

15

10:27 PM · Sep 4, 2024 · 931K Views

Benny Johnson @bennyjohnson

Subscribe

Politicians are waving Ukraine Flags in the halls of Congress and chanting "Ukraine" as they vote to send another \$60 billion overseas.

Insane.

\$60.8 BILLION IN UKRAINE AID

ON PASSAGE

H. R. 8035

	YEA	NAY	PRES	NV
REPUBLICAN	100	112	1	5
DEMOCRATIC	210			3
INDEPENDENT				
TOTALS	310	112	1	8

U.S. HOUSE

TIME REMAINING 0:00

C-SPAN 45 YEARS

From **Rand Paul**

9:41 PM · Apr 20, 2024 · 397.7K Views

Tucker Carlson & Andrew Tate's perfect take on Ukraine
 Benny Johnson • 132K views • 1 year ago

Chip Roy SAVAGES Dems sending BILLIONS to Ukraine
 Benny Johnson • 180K views • 1 year ago
 SUBSCRIBE TO THE PODCAST <https://link.chtbl.com/hDPO8U2P> Sign up for The Benny Newsletter: <https://www.bennyjohnson.com/newslett...> Follow Benny on All of His Channels: <https://www.bennyjohnson.c...>

Trump SOLVES Ukraine War: "We would have a deal made in 24 hours"
 Benny Johnson • 1.1M views • 1 year ago
 SUBSCRIBE TO THE PODCAST <https://link.chtbl.com/hDPO8U2P> Sign up for The Benny Newsletter: <https://www.bennyjohnson.com/newslett...> Follow Benny on All of His Channels: <https://www.bennyjohnson.c...>

Ukraine War: Trump's PERFECT Answer
 Benny Johnson • 5.5M views • 1 year ago
 SUBSCRIBE TO THE PODCAST <https://link.chtbl.com/hDPO8U2P> Sign up for The Benny Newsletter: <https://www.bennyjohnson.com/newsletter> Follow Benny on All of His Channels: <https://www.bennyjohnson.co...>

VIVEK GOES NUCLEAR!
 INSTANT REGRETT! CNN Has On-Air PANIC ATTACK As Vivek FLIPS Script on Host [...]
 173K views • 7 hours ago

TRUDEAU'S GOV'T COLLAPSING!
 PANIC! Canadian Libe TURN on Trudeau | CHAOS as 'Castro Jr' Set To LOSE Power in...
 72K views • 9 hours ago

WTF! WALZ'S FAM FOR TRUMP!
 The Entire Family Of Kamala's Vice President Just ENDORSED TRUMP | Greatest Troll Of...
 160K views • 10 hours ago

IDIO! KAMALA BUSTED!
 Kamala CAUGHT! FAKES Phone Call with Wired Headphones to HIDE From Press [...]
 77K views • 17 hours ago

KAMALA CRINGE!
 Kamala Breaks-Out Fake Black Accent in Detroit, Crowd CRINGES | Joe Says 'Not...'
 32K views • 1 day ago

NFL STAR ROBBED IN SAN FRAN!
 Top NFL Draft Pick SHOT in San Francisco Before Season Kickoff | 'Third World...'
 45K views • 1 day ago

amazon CAUGHT RIGGING ELECTION!
 We Caught Amazon Red-Handed RIGGING The 2024 Election AGAINST Trum...
 221K views • 1 day ago

TRUMP TO EXPOSE EPSTEIN FILES!
 Trump Vows To RELEASE The EPSTEIN LIST, Clintons PANIC | 'I Will Name Everyon...'
 134K views • 1 day ago

TIM POOL SUING KAMALA HARRIS!
 BOMBHELL! Tim Pool Announces LAWSUIT Against Kamala Campaign | This...
 159K views • 1 day ago

TRUDEAU REKT!
 Steelworker HUMILIATES Justin Trudeau To His Face As He TANKS in The Polls: 'You're...'
 88K views • 1 day ago

TRUMP SURGING IN NEW POLLS!
 Polling Expert Warns Kamala Will TANK in the Polls After Debate | 'She's PANICKING!'
 233K views • 2 days ago

NEW KAMALA ACCENT JUST DROPPED!
 Kamala Breaks-Out Fake Black Accent in Detroit, Crowd CRINGES! Rants About...
 291K views • 2 days ago

THIS IS BULL!
 Did The Eagles ENDORSE Kamala? NFL Team Responds to VIRAL Ads Around Phill...
 118K views • 2 days ago

KAMALA CAMP CAR CRASH!
 Kamala's Campaign Motorcade CRASHES! 'Blood and Broken Bones...'
 197K views • 2 days ago

Ford & Lowe's BANNED BAN DEI!
 VICTORY! Ford and Lowes SURRENDER & APOLOGIZES for WOKE Activism, ENDS DE...
 69K views • 2 days ago

TRUMP NUKES COMMIE KAMALA!
 Trump Posts 'Commie Kamala' A.I. Meme | Libs Have UNHINGED MELTDOWN
 102K views • 2 days ago

Bei Lauren Southern ist die russische Verbindung klar: 2018 war sie in Moskau um sich mit Aleksandr Dugin zu treffen, einem politischen Philosophen, der 1997 mit seinem Buch

Grundlagen der Geopolitik die theoretische Begründung für den russischen Imperialismus lieferte.

10/20



TORIES **THINKPROGRESS** f t v c


CLIMATEPROGRESS POLITICS IMMIGRATION WORLD HEALTH CARE

Why is this Pizzagate truther meeting with a Russian neo-fascist?

Far-right darlings Lauren Southern and Brittany Pettibone head to Russia to meet with Alexander Dugin.

CASEY MICHEL JUN 10, 2018, 10:23 AM

SHARE f t v



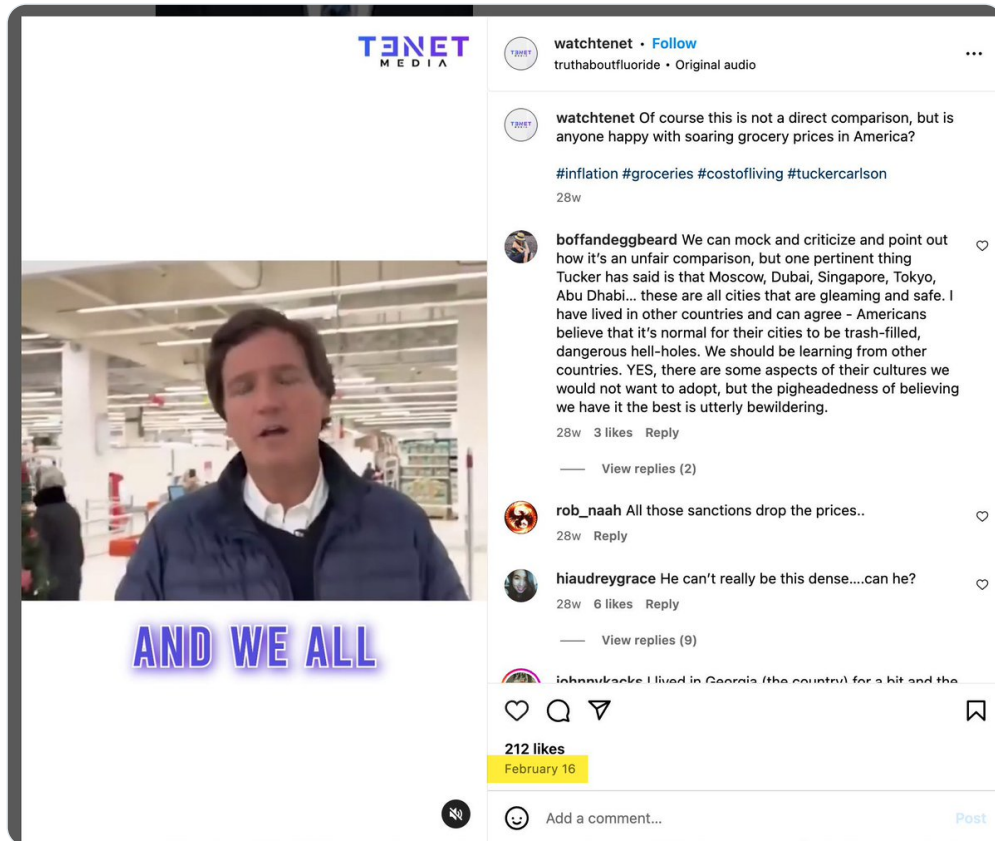
LAUREN SOUTHERN AND BRITTANY PETTIBONE MEET WITH ALEXANDER DUGIN. CREDIT: YOUTUBE

After they were barred from entering the U.K., far-right darlings Lauren Southern and Brittany Pettibone decided to head to a different country altogether: Russia.

Offenbar konnten die russischen Agenten die von den TENET-Medien publizierte Inhalte steuern: Afanasjewa hat TENET gebeten, Tucker Carlsons Besuch in einem russisch-französischen Laden zu thematisieren, obwohl einer der Produzenten dies als „unverhohlene Werbung“ empfand.

11/20

a. On or about February 15, 2024, AFANASYEVA (as “Helena Shudra”) shared with U.S. Company-1 a video of a well-known U.S. political commentator visiting a grocery store in Russia. AFANASYEVA posted the video in the Producer Discord Channel. Later that day, Producer-1 privately messaged Founder-2 on Discord: “They want me to post this” — referencing the video that AFANASYEVA had posted — but “it just feels like overt shilling.” Founder-2 replied that Founder-1 “thinks we should put it out there.” Producer-1 acquiesced, responding, “alright I’ll put it out tomorrow.”



Afanasjewa forderte TENET zB auch auf, die Ukraine für den Terroranschlag auf die Krokus-Stadthalle verantwortlich zu machen, obwohl ISIS zuvor die Verantwortung für das Massaker übernommen hatte. Chen antwortete, dass einer der Influencer „gerne darüber berichten“ würde.

12/20

c. The next day, on or about March 23, 2024, AFANASYEVA (as “Helena Shudra”) privately messaged Founder-1 on Discord asking that “one of our creators . . . record something about [the] Moscow terror attack.” Despite public reporting that the foreign terrorist organization ISIS had claimed responsibility for the attack, AFANASYEVA requested that U.S. Company-1 blame Ukraine and the United States, writing: “I think we can focus on the Ukraine/U.S. angle. . . . [T]he mainstream media spread fake news that ISIS claimed responsibility for the attack yet ISIS itself never made such statements. All terrorists are now detained while they were heading to the border with Ukraine which makes it even more suspicious why they would want to go to Ukraine to hide.” Founder-1 responded that Founder-1 would ask Commentator-3, and, the next day, confirmed that Commentator-3 said “he’s happy to cover it.”

Laut Anklageschrift wussten die Gründer von TENET Media, dass sowohl Kalaschnikow als auch Afanasjewa Russen waren. Sie beschlossen dennoch mit ihnen zu arbeiten. TENET Media hat eine große Online-Reichweite: Ihre 2000 YouTube-Videos wurden über 16 Mil Mal aufgerufen.

13/20

According to the indictment, the Tennessee company's founders worked with Kalashnikov and Afanasyeva — whom they knew were Russian — to recruit influencers to make videos that were published across YouTube, TikTok, Instagram, and X. The indictment says its nearly 2,000 YouTube videos amassed more than 16 million views, which tracks with public statistics on Tenet Media's YouTube channel.

Once the company launched in the fall of 2023, Kalashnikov and Afanasyeva were involved in the company's day-to-day operations. Kalashnikov was introduced to employees as an outside editor, and according to the indictment, "monitored U.S. Company-1's internal communications and edited content published by U.S. Company-1, without disclosing that he was an RT employee."

Dave Rubin hat behauptet, dass er & die anderen Kommentatoren „Opfer dieses Komplotts“ waren, aber offenbar hatten sie kein Problem damit, Geld von der fiktiven Person „Eduard Grigoriann“ zu erhalten, ohne den Hintergrund zu prüfen oder ihre Sorgfaltspflicht zu erfüllen.

14/20

4. KALASHNIKOV, AFANASYEVA, Founder-1, and Founder-2 also worked together to deceive two U.S. online commentators (“Commentator-1” and “Commentator-2”), who respectively have over 2.4 million and 1.3 million YouTube subscribers. Founder-1 and Founder-2 contracted with Commentator-1 and Commentator-2 to produce videos, using Commentator-1's and Commentator-2's own names and leveraging their existing audiences, for license and publication by U.S. Company-1. KALASHNIKOV, AFANASYEVA, Founder-1, and Founder-2 worked together to mask U.S. Company-1's true source of funding — *i.e.*, RT — by falsely portraying to Commentator-1 and Commentator-2 that U.S. Company-1 was sponsored by a private investor named “Eduard Grigoriann.” In truth and in fact, Grigoriann was a fictional persona. For example, during contract negotiations, Commentator-1 requested that Founder-1 provide a profile or article on “Eduard Grigoriann.” In response, Founder-1 sent Commentator-1 a one-page profile, provided to Founder-1 by another fictional persona purporting to represent “Eduard Grigoriann,” falsely describing “Eduard Grigoriann” as an “accomplished finance



Dave Rubin
@RubinReport

Statement on the DOJ indictment:

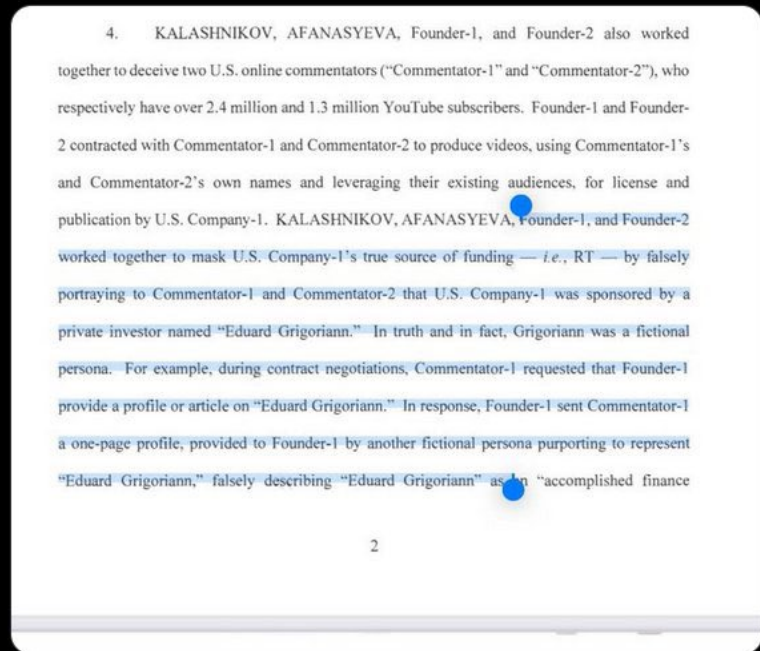
These allegations clearly show that I and other commentators were the victims of this scheme.

I knew absolutely nothing about any of this fraudulent activity. Period.

'People of the Internet' was a silly show covering viral videos which ended four months ago.

The DoJ has never contacted me regarding this matter and I have no intention to comment further.

This screenshot directly from the indictment speaks for itself...



2:42 AM · Sep 5, 2024 · 430.1K Views

The indictment accuses Kalashnikov and Afanasyeva of working with the Tennessee company's founders to conceal the true origins of its funding. They told some contributors that the company was being backed by a wealthy European banker named Eduard Grigoriann. "In truth and in fact, Grigoriann was a fictional persona," the indictment said.

The Fake "Eduard Grigoriann" Profile



EDUARD GRIGORIANN

Experienced finance professional and investor. Deeply engaged in business and philanthropy, leveraging skills and resources to drive positive impact. Supporting a range of organizations worldwide, with a dynamic presence mainly in Brussels and London, engaging in personal and professional pursuits in each location with a focus on poverty alleviation, championing free speech, and advocating for social justice causes.

Life and Education

Born in Brussels Ixelles neighborhood in 1975, to French-Armenian father and Belgian mother.

1996-2000
Bachelor's degree in Economics and Management at _____ Cum Laude.

2000-2003
Master's of Accounting, Finance and Political Science (financial analysis and management, corporate finance) at the _____ while working as a Junior Investment Banking Analyst at _____.

Professional Experience

2002-2005
Financial analyst and consultant for _____ Belgium (multinational professional services firm offering audit, tax, and advisory services).
Relocated to Singapore through _____ to work with Belgian companies looking to expand their operations in the region. Analyst services for _____ (corporate services firm that provides accounting and payroll services) and _____, Belgian holding company that invests in industrial sectors).

2005-2012
Various positions at **Bank-1** in Brussels and France. Junior Risk Management Analyst (responsible for analyzing risks associated with various Investments and developing risk management strategies). Senior Risk Management Analyst and Investment relations.
Associate at **Bank-1** Private Equity division (analyzing potential investment opportunities, conducting due diligence on companies, and working on deals).

Senior Relationship and Investment Manager at **Bank-1** Private Banking division (managing the investments of high-net-worth clients).
Director of Private Banking division and Wealth Management (overseeing a team of Investment managers, developing new products and services, building relationships with key clients, and managing the overall performance of the business).

2012
Left **Bank-1** to start own private equity and wealth management company, leveraging experience in both risk management and private equity to offer customized investment solutions to clients. Focusing primarily on hedge funds and private equity investments.

Services
Investment management, tax planning, and philanthropic advising, investment in companies with growth potential

Clients
Family offices, high-net-worth individuals, real estate developers, technology startups, etc.

Vision
As an accomplished finance professional, Mr. Grigoriann has observed multiple instances of misrepresentations and bias in mainstream media, many of which had the potential to result into poor investment outcomes of his clients. With extensive experience of living and immersing himself in various cultures, he has acquired a distinctive and alternative perspective on world events that he believes is not always accurately represented to the public. In pursuit of his goal to encourage a more nuanced public discourse worldwide, Mr. Grigoriann intends to establish a conservative news outlet that offers expertise and experience for a wide audience in the Western world and beyond.

Benny bezeichnete sich & die anderen Influencer als „Opfer“ und drohte als starker Verfechter von Redefreiheit damit, jeden zu verklagen, der etwas anderes behauptet. Bezeichnen wir ihn also nicht als russischen Agenten, wohl doch aber als gierig und naiv.



Man sieht, wie leicht manche politische Online-Kommentatoren gekauft werden können, um bestimmte politische Narrative zu verbreiten, selbst wenn sie von den Propagandisten eines fremden Staates formuliert wurden. Alles wird möglich mit 400.000 EUR pro Monat.

16/20

Tenet publicly launched in November 2023 with six contributors well-known in right-wing media, including Benny Johnson, Tim Pool, David Rubin, and Lauren Southern. The videos they create for Tenet regularly cover conservative staples including “migrant gangs,” transgender people, online censorship, and attacks on Vice President Kamala Harris and President Joe Biden.

“While the views expressed in the videos are not uniform, the subject matter and content of the videos are often consistent with the Government of Russia's interest in amplifying U.S. domestic divisions in order to weaken U.S. opposition to core Government of Russia interests, such as its ongoing war in Ukraine,” the indictment said.

Prosecutors said one of the Tenet founders began soliciting two commentators for work on behalf of “Grigoriann” around February 2023. One of the personalities, described as “Commentator-1,” said he would need \$5 million annually “for him to be interested” in creating videos for the fake persona, Grigoriann. The other, identified as “Commentator-2,” needed \$100,000 per weekly episode “to make it worth his while,” according to the indictment.

The two commentators eventually entered into contracts, prosecutors said. The contract for Commentator-1 required four weekly videos that he would host and would be livestreamed by Tenet Media in exchange for \$400,000 per month and a \$100,000 signing bonus. Commentator-2 agreed to provide weekly videos for \$100,000 apiece, the indictment states.

Den russischen Geheimdiensten ist es lieber, wenn man nicht weiß, dass man für sie arbeitet. Eine Person kann wissentlich oder unwissentlich für eine ausländische Regierung arbeiten. Letztere werden oft als „nützliche Idioten“ bezeichnet.

17/20

Russia relies on 'unwitting Americans' to spread election disinformation, US officials say

Russia is turning a fresh page in their propaganda playbook in a bid to influence public opinion ahead of the 2024 US presidential election by employing both witting and unwitting Americans as well as commercial public relations firms in Russia to spread disinformation, top intelligence officials said on Monday.

Issued on: 30/07/2024 - 10:07 ⌚ 4 min



Photo illustration shows a video marked as an "altered" in front of false images of CNN's Wolf Blitzer hawking a diabetes drug. © Stefani Reynolds, AFP

By: [NEWS WIRES](#)

The [Kremlin](#) is turning to unwitting Americans and commercial public relations firms in [Russia](#) to spread disinformation about the U.S. presidential race, top intelligence officials said Monday, detailing the latest efforts by America's adversaries to shape public opinion ahead of the 2024 election.



Glücklicherweise scheinen die US-Behörden bei der Aufdeckung ausländischer Beeinflussung der US-Wahlen effizienter geworden zu sein. 2016 und 2020 haben sie schlecht abgeschnitten, aber dieses Mal konnten sie eine massive Einflussoperation vor den Wahlen aufdecken.

18/20



Natürlich haben die üblichen Verdächtigen bereits begonnen vom Thema abzulenken. David Sacks zB hat das Thema auf „bezahlte ukrainische Influencer“ verlagert, ohne zu bedenken,

dass einige Leute ein souveränes Land tatsächlich völlig kostenlos verteidigen möchten.

19/20



Fazit: Russland hat seine Strategie der Online-Beeinflussung geändert & setzt nicht nur riesige Bot- und Troll-Netzwerke ein, sondern bezahlt auch über Briefkastenfirmen die Konten von Social-Media Superstreuern. Und wir denken, das ist nur die Spitze des Eisbergs.

20/20

- Elon Musk** x @elonmusk · 18 Apr 23

Replying to **@bennyjohnson**

Wait for it...

1.6K 3.8K 63.3K 6.5M
- Elon Musk** x @elonmusk · 07 Nov 22

Replying to @elonmusk @bennyjohnson and @kathygriffin

For \$8

6.1K 8K 140K
- Elon Musk** x @elonmusk · 17 May 22

Replying to @bennyjohnson

Is this legit?

7.1K 7.6K 106K
- Elon Musk** x @elonmusk · 07 Nov 22

Replying to @bennyjohnson and @kathygriffin

Actually, she was suspended for impersonating a comedian

Rate proposed Community Notes →

21.9K 31.7K 495K

- Elon Musk** x @elonmusk · 18 May 23

Replying to @bennyjohnson

Does the public realize that Soros wants open borders? Literally not even checking to see if they're convicted serial killers on the run, which has happened more than once.

4.6K 14.2K 75.7K 2.6M
- Elon Musk** x @elonmusk · 05 Apr 23

Replying to @bennyjohnson and @NPR

Seems accurate

"State-affiliated media is defined as outlets where the state exercises control over editorial content through financial resources, direct or indirect political pressures, and/or control over production and distribution," Twitter's Help Center reads. 3 hours ago

Rate proposed Community Notes →

3.9K 10.1K 83.4K 4.4M

- Elon Musk** x @elonmusk · 02 Jun 23

Replying to **@Timcast**

I am on team humanity

3.2K 3.2K 44.8K 2.1M
- Elon Musk** x @elonmusk · 11 Mar 23

Replying to @RepMattGaetz and @Timcast

I used to think Bannon was smart & evil, but now I realize I was wrong about the first part

6.6K 4.3K 66.8K 4.5M
- Elon Musk** x @elonmusk · 23 Nov 22

Replying to @Timcast

🤔🤔

418 847 22.3K
- Elon Musk** x @elonmusk · 10 Jun 23

Replying to @Timcast and @TheBabylonBee

Seriously

152 194 5.2K 370K
- Elon Musk** x @elonmusk · 19 Apr 23

Replying to @Timcast

Will be fixed soon

678 637 13K 1.8M

- Elon Musk** x @elonmusk · 03 Dec 22

Replying to @Timcast

Correct

1.3K 3.8K 48.5K
- Elon Musk** x @elonmusk · 13 Dec 22

Replying to @Timcast

🔥🔥

1.5K 764 25.3K
- Elon Musk** x @elonmusk · 26 Apr 23

Replying to @Timcast

If you are taught to hate yourself, you will want to be someone else

4.9K 16.5K 145K 6.1M
- Elon Musk** x @elonmusk · 01 Jun 19

Replying to @Timcast

Working on Starship

715 2.7K 66.7K
- Elon Musk** x @elonmusk · 09 Jun 23

Replying to @Timcast

!

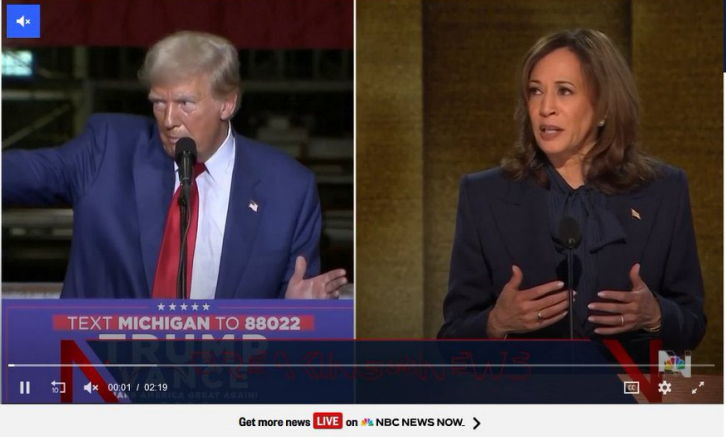
552 359 6.4K 584K

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JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

Russian money was funneled to right-wing creators through a pro-Trump media outlet: prosecutors

The indictment on Wednesday of two RT employees includes allegations that the duo implemented a nearly \$10 million plan to fund an unnamed Tennessee-based company as one of their "covert projects"



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Sept. 5, 2024, 4:19 AM GMT+3
By Ryan J. Reilly, Lisa Rubin, Brandy Zadrozny and David Ingram

Das Buch „Vatnik Soup - The Ultimate Guide to Russian Disinformation“ wird am 20. September 2024 veröffentlicht. Man kann es jetzt hier vorbestellen (mit zusätzlichen Extras!)

<https://www.kleart.dk/webshop/p/vatnik-soup>

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